THE DAY AT THE CAPITAL OF TEXAS.

Important Questions Which Will Come Before the Legislators This Week.

LEWIS' FELLOW SERVANT BILL IS PENDING.

With One Exception, Ward's Election Bill Is Commended -- Lack of Leadership and Unite in the House -- The Text Book Question. Assignment Bills Still a Bone of Contention.

Austin, Texas, February 14 -The coming logislative week opens with Mr. Lewis' bill to annul the doctrine of fellow servants pending in the senate and Mr. Ward's bill to provide an improved met bod of bolding elections, according to the Australian system, and extend the same to rural districts, pending in the house. Both bills have been read the second time, and are now struggling along towards engressment. Mr. Lewis' bill will probably pass in a modified form, but the chances are decidedly against Mr. Ward's bill. It has the merit of being so built as to effectually prevent the buncoing of voters by combinations of "push and pull" men should it become a law, but it is weak in that it seeks to confer too much jurisdiction upon commissioners courts in the matter of preparing and defining lawful ballots.

Evans' (of Hunt) bill amending the assignment law so as to prohibit the preferring of creditors, and if possible prevent fraudulent failures, has been made special order for Tuesday in the house, and a spirited debate thereover may be expected. In the senate three assignment bills more or less akin to Evans' have been introduced but the sub-committee to which they were referred has reported the following substitute therefor, upon which final action has not yet been taken by judiciary committee No. 1.

Section 1. That every sale, assignment, mortgage, deed of trust or other transfer of any property or effects of any merchant, mercantile partnership, association or joint stock company daily exposing any goods, wares or merchandise company when insolvent or in contemplation of insolveney, or after or in contemplation of the involvency of any pariner or member of such parinership, association, or joint stock company, with the intent of giving a preference to any creditor of such merchant, mercantile partnership, association or joint stock company over other creditors of such merchant, mercantile partnership, association or joint stock company, and every judgment con femsed. Hen created or security given or act done by such merchant, mercantile partnership, association or joint stock company under like circumstances and with like intent shall be void as against the creditors of such merchant, mercanille purthership, association or joint stock pany in so far as it attempts to give any preference, and shall be construed and is declared to be a general assignment for all creditors of such merchant, mercantile partnership, association or joint stuck company.

Sec. 2. Whenever any merchant, more antile partnership, association or joint stock company shall confess any judgme nt. or shall attempt to give any preference to one creditor over other creditors, under the conditions named in the proceding section by any other means and acts ther in specified, and shall name any creditor of such merchant, mercantile parinership as sociation or joint stock company as trustee or assignee, then the county judge in the county in which such merchant mercantile partnership, association or joint stock company shall be conducting his said business shall upon the application of one or more creditors thereof, either in term time or variation, appoint some estiable person his assigner, and the provisions of Title 8 of the herised Civil Statiuse of the State of Trass, as relating to assignments for creditors, shall apply in carrying into of feet the provisions of this act. The above favorable strikes a majority of the reprosentatives of different State commercial interests who have been here urging changes in the assignment law, its simplicity excess them.

In the matter of committee work ho th of the house judiciary committees have been getting along in a burry and keeping up with their dockets, but the finance committee, the committee on revenue and taxation and the committee on internal improvements are still in the woods to say nothing of the committee State affairs, which is finding it no easy matter to get together on a fee bill. The appropriation bill is promised for M arch I, and the revenue and taxation folks bore to have something to report heat week. Judging from the manner in which they have been proceeding to date, however, they are apt to be disappointed. Mincharly, their mission they have been at the remove patent irregularities in the compation lag laws gone on a hint after comporate commonate. To squeeze, Naturally the "extenderable success. To be plain about this, there is with one exception no occasion, for russing the occupation taxes, and this expleitature will make a missiage of it goes out of its way to be it up people who are already paying their just proportion of the expenses of this government. The law relating to the classification of merchanic needs aminimize as as to make it work more evenly than at present so left in hundings in present so that it is hunding impresent satisfied by make to pay the liquor tax, a few occupations which have no far exampled taxation should be rounded up and the broads to self-clus bursting impresents about the rounded up and the broads to self-clus the single paying their satisfies and the self-beer exclusively should be about the figure that, a few occupations which have no far exampled taxation should be rounded up and the broads used to self-beer exclusively should be about the figure tax, a thought per formulated in one day, the occupation tax laws are all right as they start. hope to have something to report next week. Judging from the manner in which

The senate has passed the bill amending the Code of Criminal Procedure as suggested in the Fort Worth platform, and sent said bills over to the house and has before it three other platform measures, to-wit: Fellow servant bill, the fee bill and a bill relating to permanent school fund investments. For the house it can not be said it has as yet manifested much intention to tackle these measures, which it would seem should have received its attention first important senate measures are new lying an the speakers dosk with subody to call them up while time and talk is being consumed upon trivial brills of little class but local interest. The need of intelligent lendership is worfully apparent in the lower branch which he afflicted with a lack of unity of purpose that has been mistaken for a tandable spirit of indegeneems. The method of the method of the interest consus should be reformed so as to prevent the possibility of fraud which can be practiced without detection as matters now stand; State control over expenditures of available achool fundation; the resches the hands of local boards should be established to prevent the misapplication, an emiliedy new way of investing the nermanent achool fund must be misapplication, an entirely new was at investing the permanent achoof fund must he found to prevent its complete annihilation, the lensing of convicts to private contractors should be stopped and provision made for their working on State account the regulation of assessment fraternal and benevolent life insurance companies must be attended to yet not one stop has been taken in the direction of either of those needed statutory changes in the house.

Beyond organizing and electing Mr. He land of Harris chairman, the joint redistricting committee of both houses has done as thing. In fact, it is exceedingly doubt. ful whether even if it tries to Jo so it will be able to reconstruct the judicial gargraphy of the State in a satisfactory manner, or in other words, to prepare a redistricting bill that will pass. In the mean time several of the larger counties are calling for new courts and showing why they should have them. In this concaring for her could and showing of young income have them. In this course, nection it has been advanced that the revenue in many cases is so fixed now as to cause a glut of litigation in the course of counties including large commercial conters within their boundaries, and that if the condition was aftered so as to scatter litigation the necessity for additional course would be removed for the present.

The passage by the house of the hill to do away with the collection of agricultural statistics by assessors for publication by the commissioner of agriculture, credit for which is due Mr. Drew of Kau fman, does not, as might be supposed, abolish the agricultural department. It simply eliminates one of its features, which has never been a success. Such at attacks as it has obtained from assessors have been practically worthless, and their publication a piece of extravagance.

There is some inquiry as to what the house will do with the senate resolution providing for the appointment of a joint committee to inquire into the subject of school text books, and to prepare a bill regulating the use and purchase of same. There need be no fear, however, but that the house will adopt it. There is no question in which the people of the State are so intensely interested as this, and if, following the example of its predeces sors, the Twenty-fifth legislature refuses to tackle and settle it, the reckoning will be swift and lasting. It has been calto tackle and settle it, the reckoning will be swift and lasting. It has been calculated that \$1,000,000 more than necreary is paid for school books in Texas every year, and there is no doubt but that school tractees and tea hers in many instances have become too closely identified with the fortraduction and sale threed. Furthermore, the binshess has undoubtedly been cornered. Since the passage by and it is predicted that next week the school book people will have reinforcements on the ground, but unless a great change occurs their machinations are apt to avail them naught.

term. It shows that for this period, while the amount read for feachers' ralaries has greatly increased, the amount read for other purposes has greatly decreased. It also rives an account of the long standing controvery in regard to the purchase of charts, mane and other supplies, terminating with the decision of the court of civil appeals belding all such expenditures unlarful, thereby sustaining the position taken by the department of education.

Passing to the subject of the needed enlargement of school funds, the report shows that the expenditures for schools in Texas per capita of the total population are far below the average in the United States; that the average school term is below the minimum prescribed by the constitution, notwithstanding that the State funds are increased by a million and a quarter of local funds; that the State has not been able to pay off its apportionment for any year since 1801-92; that there was a small defect for the last year, notwithstanding the extraordinary efforts made to pay the apportionment by the end of the year; that the State is confronted with the necessity of increasing the funds, cutting down the school term or continuing the struggle with a growing deficiency. It argues that the constitution requires the State, by the use of State funds alone, to provide a school form of six months in each year for every child of school age; it insists that this requirement is not met by an average term of six months but that no school should be courselied to step short of six months; yet the average term of the country is only a little over four months, while inary of them run only three months or less. It that over four months, while many of them run only three months or less. It urges the increase of the school tax from 18

cents on the \$100

he celored youth is commended. Af-in is again called to the find quary of visiting law in rearrd to the scholastic is and improvement in the law is

After a brief discussion of the certificate law, the text book question is taken up. The cylls of existing conditions are out-lined, the difficulties in the way of effective

he free book system. The merits of stem are presented with race; a copy the Nebraska law is given, as is also how a law. The cheapness of books until the coat of books per pupil for each of the coat of

recommendations, and the report closes with a good word for the employes of the concernion of whool officers through the state.

State.

BEAUMONT BUDGET.

D. P. Kaufman, the Beaumont architect, has completed the plans for the H. Hirsch ivesidence. Contract for the building will be let before the first of next month and when completed it will be the pretriest and most comfortable residence structure in Beaumont. The building will front fifty feet on Calder avanue and run back seventy feet, and is so designed as to combine beauty and convenience. The house and other improvements will cost in the neighburhood of \$14,000.

Wednesday night Miss Honar Weuife, the noted elecutionist, will becture in the



THE BURNED CAPITOL AT HARRISBURG.

Then follows a number of relacellaneous a sympathizer on the train

Congressman Smedley Darlington has been arraigned on a charge of embezzlement arising from the financial troubles of the West Chester Guarantee and Safe Deposit company, of which he was president before The report (wo very fine bucks, the Drawlers having killed one of them.

The report (wo very fine bucks, the Drawlers having killed one of them.

The little of Sandy Point, Terms enterposed in the Sist, from Braxora, on the Sist, from Braxora, and the Braxora when completed it will be the preticited and mast constrained residence structure in measurement. The building will from fifty feet on Calder avenue and run back severally feet, and is so designed as in combine beauty and convenience. The house and other improvements will cost in the neighborhood of \$14,000.

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PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

Need of Funds to Carry On the Work.

Text Book Question.

Austin. Texas, February 14.—The hierarchies surfered for the progress of civilization of the superintendent of the Fands was given to the funds to public instruction was delivered yesterday, In addition to the statistical tables that the progress of civilization, in reconstruction of schools.

It opens with a review of the civic and social leasis of public schools. It then takes up the financial question, and that pressit confliction of the schools.

Biver or Bayou.

To the Bitter or the delivery provided for universal education, it quotes from philosophers and strategies and interpret in the financial question of all ages, statements showing the mecanity for funds the proper shows that it during the great period of the February 10.

Biver or Bayou.

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Biver or Bayou.

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WEATHER FOR THE MONTH.

Atmospheric Pressure Was Slightly Above the Normal.

TEMPERATURE WAS BELOW NORMAL

Precipitation Was Not Well Distributed-Wheat Damaged and Oats Killed-Cabbage Doing Well.

Galveston, Texas, February 13 -Follow ing is the monthly weather report prepared by Dr. I. M. Cline, in charge of the United States weather bureau here; CLIMATOLOGY OF THE MONTH.

Atmospheric pressure (in Inches and hundredths)-The mean atmospheric pressure, reduced to sea level, as shown by cb servations taken daily at 8 a. m. and 8 p. m., Seventy-fifth meridian time, determined from seven stations fairly distribut ed over the State, was 39.22, which is slightly above the normal for this month. The highest monthly average was 30.25 at Abilene, and the lowest was 30.16 at El Pase. Four areas of high pressure of not-Contensity with their accompanying weather changes crossed the State during the menth, one on the 3d and 4th, one on the 19th, and the other reached the northern portion of the State THE BURNED CAPITOL AT HARRISBURG.

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dense of Mr. and Mrs. Eli Medaulcis, in bonor tomorrow to answer for contempt.

When Sheriff Lake left with Edwards in a bugge Friday night he drove, under whip, to Gurley, twenty miles south on the San Antonio and Aransas Pass, where they boarded the southbound passenger that an light. They took the International and Great Northern at Rockdale, but had to lay aver several hours there and at Palestine.

Edwards was not idle, but every opportunity would write a neesang and stip it to a telegraph office. In this way be communicated with his attorney here and capabled them to arrange for Lake a capture at Mineola.

The message that reached his attorneys was written white Sheriff Lake stept last night, and was smuzgled to an operator by a sympathier on the train.

Edwards went to jall tonight. Sheriff Lake spectually it is not definitely known whether President-elect McKinley will start for Cleveland in the Content of the Aransa for the green and an election of the State and should be made to the state of the military and Misses Card Deployer James and the military and military and Misses Card Deployer James Archards and the military and military and Misses Card Deployer James Archards and the mili

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Note

Lanar hales observed at Boerne on the lists, at Danevang on the 4th and 5th, at Galveston on the 19th, at Hale Center on the 5th, at Hale taxille on the 8th and at Kerrville on the 7th and 10th.

Prevailing direction of the wind for the month, north.

Thunderstorms (stations and dates of

does not relish and need the toning up of digestive organs, wi Sarsaparilla will give u fles and enriches the bi tress after eating and

Only a dyspeptic can know, a appetite, overcomes that the builds up and sustains the who system. It so system. It so promptly and relieves dyspeptic symptoms of nervous neadaches, that it come almost "a magle touch"

Distress After Lating.
"I have been troubled with interesting to some time. After some that was sweet I was save to up great difficulty and distres. Let began taking Hood's Sarspadh glad to say that my stomet book entirely disappeared. I am no hearty meal of almost any kind and have no trouble afterwards. Barsaparilla has also cured me et a spells." JOHN H. HORRING Wheatland, Iowa. Such cure per

Sarsaparilla

Hood's Pills billounes 31

We Are

Public Servan

